



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

Raised Bill No. 5512

LCO No. 1310

01310_____PD_

Referred to Committee on Planning and Development

Introduced by:
(PD)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PLACEMENT OF FLAGS AT CEMETERIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 19a-297 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) The selectmen of towns, cemetery associations or ecclesiastical
4 societies, having the care of cemeteries, may (1) enact bylaws
5 providing for the care and management of all burial lots, and the
6 protection of all shrubs, trees, fences and monuments thereon,
7 provided no such bylaws shall require or result in the removal or
8 banishing of any undamaged United States flag or armed forces
9 service marker, including flagholders provided by veterans
10 organizations, from any grave site, and [may] (2) appoint
11 superintendents and sextons for such cemeteries. [, who] Such
12 superintendents and sextons shall have the exclusive right to direct the
13 opening of graves, and no grave shall be opened in any cemetery
14 except with the consent of the superintendent or sexton. Any person to
15 whom such bylaws have been made known who violates the same
16 shall be fined not more than ten dollars. The incorporators, organizers

17 or members of any cemetery association or, if no incorporators,
18 organizers or members are living, the owners of burial lots therein, by
19 a majority vote, may, at any meeting called for that purpose, amend its
20 articles of association or its bylaws.

21 (b) Veterans' organizations may place the United States flag on the
22 graves of veterans beginning seven days before Memorial Day in each
23 year and shall remove such flag not later than the Monday after July
24 fourth.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To authorize the placement of the American flag on the graves of veterans in all cemeteries in the state and require flag retrieval to through the weekend after July fourth.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]